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Privacy and Security
http://aspe.hhs.gov/admnsimp/final/pvcguide1.htm
7/6/2001 -- First Guidance on the Final Privacy Rule from the Office on Civil Rights, DHHS. Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information. Includes information on disease reporting and justification for public health authorities obtaining data.

www.os.dhhs.gov/ocr/hipaa/govtaccess.html
Questions regarding restrictions on Government Access to Health Information. Does the rule require my doctor to send my medical records to the government? Why would a Privacy Rule require covered entities to turn over anybody's personal health information as part of a government enforcement process? Will this rule make it easier for police and law enforcement agencies to get my medical information? Must a health care provider or other covered entity obtain permission from a patient prior to notifying public health authorities of the occurrence of a reportable disease? How does the rule affect my rights under the federal Privacy Act?

www.os.dhhs.gov/news/press/2001pres/01fshipaa.html
(Fact Sheet) Administrative Simplification Under HIPAA: National Standards for Transactions, Security, and Privacy. Includes facts on covered entities, compliance schedules, electronic transaction standards, privacy standards, security standards, national employer identifier, national provider identifier, and personal identifier (on hold).

http://aspe.hhs.gov/admnsimp/final/pvcfact2.htm
HHS Fact Sheet: Protecting the Privacy of Patients' Health Information. Includes compliance schedule, covered entities, consumer control of information, special limitations, equivalence for public and private sector, penalties, boundaries on medical record use and release

http://aspe.os.dhhs.gov/admnsimp/faqsec.htm
Frequently Asked Questions About Security and Electronic Signature Standards Frequently Asked Questions About Security and Electronic Signature Standards. Questions include: What is the purpose of the new Security and Electronic Signature standards? Why were new Security and

Electronic Signature standards needed? What problems do these standards address? solve? How will the standard protect individual health information? How will the new standard be implemented? Who must comply with the Security Standards? Who must comply with the Electronic Signature standard? Do security requirements apply only to the transactions adopted under HIPAA? Is the use of an electronic signature mandatory? Do the Security Standards apply to hardcopy, e.g., paper documents, as well as to electronic information? Why doesn't the Security Standard select specific technologies to be used? How could a small provider implement the security standard?

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Transactions
http://aspe.hhs.gov/admnsimp/qdate01.htm
Frequently Asked Questions (submitted by the public) on Final Transaction Rule.

www.hipaa-dsmo.org/
Designated Standard Maintenance Organizations site provides a database of frequently asked questions concerning HIPAA Transaction Standards.

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HIPAA Implementation
http://hipaa.wpc-edi.com/HIPAA_40.asp
ANSI ASC X12N HIPAA Implementation Guides (Obtain use of HIPAA downloads with free registration)

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HIPAA Basics
www.hipaadvisory.com/regs/HIPAAprimer1.htm
What's HIPAA? - A Basic HIPAA Primer that provides a general business focus, with public health acknowledged.

http://aspe.hhs.gov/admnsimp/pl104191.htm
Public Law 104-191, AUG. 21, 1996 - Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996

www.hipaadvisory.com/news/
HIPAA News from Phoenix Health Systems. Provides timely information useful for public health planners and decision makers including compliance date changes, information on data sharing, surveys on privacy issues, etc.

www.dhs.state.mn.us/Hipaa/HIPAA_definitions.htm
HIPAA Definitions and Concepts - reproduced from the original text of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act.   Includes Health Care Clearinghouse, Health Care Provider, Health Information, Health Plan,
Individually Identifiable Health Information, and Transactions.

www.heartland.org/studies/k-k.htm
How to Implement Kassebaum-Kennedy: A State Legislators' Guide to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 By Conrad F. Meier, March 25, 1997. A primer that is somewhat dated, but helps public health officials understand some of the concerns of their legislators.

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Non-HIPAA Sites

NEDSS

www.cdc.gov/od/hissb/act_int.htm (The CDC's HISSB website.)
By clicking on resources (http://www.cdc.gov/od/hissb/lnk.htm) one is linked to a plethora of resources on this topic, subdivided into the following categories: partners; standards development; national organizations; and legislation.

www.naccho.org/project76.cfm (NACCHO)
As noted on the NACCHO site, "NACCHO's role in the NEDSS initiative is primarily to act as a liaison between local public health agencies and the CDC. Specifically, we are to inform LPHAs about NEDSS and to provide CDC with feedback and comments from LPHAs regarding the NEDSS process. NACCHO's Information Technology Committee is closely monitoring the process and events surrounding NEDSS. As necessary they will provide recommendations and advice to NACCHO membership regarding NEDSS and other IT related issues. Site provides links to additional resources.

www.ohd.hr.state.or.us/nedss/resources.htm (Oregon Health Division)
Oregon received one of two Charter Site awards. Provides links to a plethora of downloadable NEDSS Resources. Downloadable reports include the following:

- Supporting Public Health Surveillance through the National Electronic Disease Surveillance System
- A Guide to the Implementation of the National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NEDSS) in State Public Health Agencies
- NEDSS Base System Description
- NEDSS Systems Architecture
- Common Data Elements Implementation Guide
- Public Health Conceptual Data Model
- Public Health Conceptual Data Model
- Health Level Seven Specifications for Electronic Laboratory-Based Reporting of Public Health Information
- Secure Data Network Standards and Procedures
- Standards Approved by Internet Standards Committee
- White Paper: Communicable Disease Surveillance Systems

www.health.state.mn.us/divs/dpc/nedss/faq.html (Minnesota Department of Health)
This site explains the Minnesota project and provides an informative document in the form of frequently asked questions. As noted on the site, the MDH NEDSS project will: further develop our

capacity to receive infectious disease reports and test results electronically using standard formats create an integrated and standardized infectious disease database improve our ability to analyze and disseminate data on infectious diseases with tables, graphs, figures, and maps on the Web and via other methods. Provides links to other sites.

http://ncvhs.hhs.gov/010628p2.htm
June 28, 2001 presentation by Denise Koo, CDC, on NEDSS. To quote the beginning, "The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has a vision of how advances in information technology can lead to better public health. Surveillance - the ongoing, systematic collection, analysis and interpretation of health related data - is the foundation of CDC's prevention and control programs and is essential to program planning, implementation, and evaluation. However, we know that most current surveillance systems are neither complete nor timely."

www.cste.org/NNDSSSurvey/Downloads/NEDSS_Book_Final.pdf (Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists.)
Easy to use guide. (The Oregon site also links to this guide.)

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Clinical Standards
www.nlm.nih.gov/nichsr/outreach.html
NICHSR is participating with ASTHO, CDC, HRSA, NACCHO, NN/LM and the PHF in an initiative designed to improve Information Access for Public Health Professionals. The Partners website with tools for public health professionals and more information about the program is available. Why? To provide public health professionals timely, convenient access to information resources to aid them in improving the health of the American public. Its objective include the following:

- Increase awareness and use of NLM, NN/LM and CDC distributed learning resources among public health professionals,
- Assist public health professionals in obtaining the hardware/software, Internet connection and satellite reception needed for effective access to information resources,
- Train public health professionals to use the technology required for effective access to information resources,
- Train public health professionals to identify and use pertinent information resources and services,
- Increase awareness of public health professionals' needs and resources among NN/LM members.

Related slides on public health information needs and public health informatics and case studies on medicine and public health are also available. (http://nnlm.gov/partners/)

http://text.nlm.nih.gov/ (HSTAT—Health Services/Technology Assessment Text) A free, web-based resource that provides access to full-text documents useful for providing health information and for health care decision making. HSTAT's audience includes health care providers, health service researchers, policy makers, payers, consumers and the information professionals who serve these groups. Provides access to a wide variety of publications, including: clinical practice guidelines, quick-reference guides for clinicians, consumer health brochures, evidence reports and technology assessments from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

www.hcfa.gov/quality/2b.htm#ocsq
This URL is housed on the CMS website (the Center for Medicare, Medicaid Services site, formerly known as HCFA). "In addition to providing health insurance, CMS also performs a number of

quality-focused activities, including regulation of laboratory testing (CLIA), development of coverage policies, and quality-of-care improvement." The site provides a plethora of information related ongoing quality improvement initiatives, complete with a site index and personnel directory.

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Laboratory
www.cdc.gov/od/hissb/docs/HL7Spec.pdf
Health Level Seven Specifications for Electronic Laboratory-Based Reporting of Public Health Information (464K PDF). Proposed standard specification for implementing electronic communication of reportable information from laboratories to public health agencies using Health Level 7, a national standard for sharing health data. The specification recommends the use of standard codes for tests (LOINC) and results (SNOMED).

www.cdc.gov/od/hissb/docs/DWYERIII_Vo.pdf
Organism List to Organism Mapping (SNOMED) (83K) A spreadsheet of reportable conditions and the SNOMED result codes used to describe the reportable laboratory findings. This document includes terms and term codes from the SNOMED work of medical nomenclature, a copyrighted work of the College of American Pathologist (CAP). 1997 College of American Pathologists.

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Health Data Standards Basics
www.ncvhs.hhs.gov/NHII2kReport.htm
Toward a National Health Information Infrastructure, an interim report (June 2000) by the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics NCVHS). Includes an orientation to the National Health Information Infrastructure (NHII), a description of opportunities to improve health and health care, justification for standards, barriers to sharing data, information on quality standards for online data,

www.cdc.gov/od/hissb/docs/phcdm.htm
Public Health Conceptual Data Model (PHCDM) -The PHCDM documents information needs in public health, providing a framework for organizing data standards and guidelines and facilitating data comparability and exchange with other systems.

www.nahdo.org/Adminsimp/mergedmatrix3.htm
Prioritization of data needs for state encounter data sets for public health and research applications - NAHDO Summary matrix of institutional transaction recommendations, December 29, 2000

www.ncvhs.hhs.gov/
Home Page for The National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics (NCVHS) The Public Advisory Body to the Secretary of Health and Human Services. Includes a description of NCVHS, minutes, and live recordings of meetings.

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